

The Examiner has requested that, for search purposes, Applicant elect a species of porous material (specifying the specific composition, mean pore diameter, density and exposed surface area), and also elect a species of molecules. Accordingly, for search purposes, Applicant elects—from 1A—a porous material comprising alumina and silica, with mean pore diameter of greater than about 10 microns, density of at least about 6 pounds per cubic foot, and an exposed surface of at least about 50% silicon dioxide. Applicant also elects for search purposes—from 1B—oligonucleotides. Claims 2, 4, 6, 7 and 10 read on these elected species.

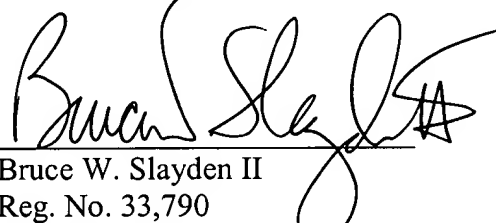
SUMMARY

Should the Examiner have any questions, comments or suggestions in furtherance of the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the attorney of record by telephone or facsimile.

Applicant believes that no fee is due in association with this filing, however, should there be any fees due, including any fees for an extension of time, Applicant respectfully requests that the Commissioner accept this as a Petition therefor, and herewith authorizes the Commissioner to charge any fees due in association with this filing to Baker Botts L.L.P., Deposit Account No. 02-0383, Order No. 068986.0103.

Respectfully submitted,

BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.

By: 
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Date: October 24, 2002

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